

ing plants, and related facilities but subject, however, to the following conditions and limitations:

**(a) Contributions to be matched by Commonwealth**

The amounts authorized to be contributed by the Secretary of the Interior to the Commonwealth shall be equally matched by the Commonwealth;

**(b) Amount of contributions authorized**

The total amount of contributions by the Secretary of the Interior under the authority of this chapter shall not exceed \$8,500,000, of which \$1,500,000 of the unexpended balance remaining as of July 31, 1962, shall be reserved for the control and drainage of water;

**(c) Limitation on use of contribution**

The amounts contributed by the Secretary of the Interior under the authority of this chapter and the equally matched amounts contributed by the Commonwealth shall not be used for operating and maintaining projects constructed pursuant to this chapter or for the purchase of culm, rock, or spoil banks;

**(d) Commonwealth responsible for installation and operation of projects**

The Commonwealth shall have full responsibility for installing, operating, and maintaining projects constructed pursuant to this chapter, and shall give evidence, satisfactory to the Secretary of the Interior, that it will enforce effective installation, operation, and maintenance safeguards;

**(e) Location and operation of projects**

Projects constructed pursuant to this chapter shall be so located, operated, and maintained as to provide the maximum conservation of anthracite coal resources or, in those instances where such work would be in the interest of the public health or safety, to seal abandoned coal mines and to fill voids in abandoned coal mines, and, where possible, to avoid creating inequities among those mines which may be affected by the waters to be controlled thereby; and

**(f) Economic justification for abandoned coal mine projects**

Projects for the sealing of abandoned coal mines or the filling of voids in abandoned coal mines shall be determined by the Secretary of the Interior to be economically justified. The Secretary shall not find any project to be economically justified unless the potential benefits are estimated by him to exceed the estimated cost of the project.

(July 15, 1955, ch. 369, §2, 69 Stat. 353; Oct. 15, 1962, Pub. L. 87-818, §1(2)-(7), 76 Stat. 934.)

AMENDMENTS

1962—Pub. L. 87-818, §1(2), authorized the Secretary of the Interior, in the preamble clause, to seal abandoned coal mines and to fill voids in abandoned coal mines, in those instances where such work is in the interest of the public health or safety.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 87-818, §1(3), reserved \$1,500,000 of the unexpended balance remaining as of July 31, 1962, for the control and drainage of water.

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 87-818, §1(4), prohibited the use of contributions for the purchase of culm, rock, or spoil banks.

Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 87-818, §1(5), struck out “and” after the semicolon.

Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 87-818, §1(6), prescribed that projects be so located, operated, and maintained as to seal abandoned coal mines and to fill voids in abandoned coal mines in those instances where such work would be in the interest of the public health or safety.

Subsec. (f). Pub. L. 87-818, §1(7), added subsec. (f).

SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in title 40 App. section 205.

**§ 573. Statement by Commonwealth for Secretary**

The Commonwealth shall furnish to the Secretary of the Interior a statement with respect to the project showing work done, the status of the project, expenditures and amounts obligated, at such times and in such detail as the Secretary of the Interior shall require for the purposes of this chapter.

(July 15, 1955, ch. 369, §3, 69 Stat. 353.)

**§ 574. Hearings; withholding payments**

Whenever the Secretary of the Interior, after reasonable notice and opportunity for hearing, finds that there is a failure to expend funds in accordance with the terms and conditions governing the Federal contribution for such approved projects, he shall notify the Commonwealth that further payments will not be made to the Commonwealth from appropriations under this chapter until he is satisfied that there will no longer be any such failure. Until he is so satisfied the Secretary of the Interior shall withhold the payment of any financial contributions to the Commonwealth.

(July 15, 1955, ch. 369, §4, 69 Stat. 353.)

**§ 575. Annual reports to Congress by Secretary**

The Secretary of the Interior shall render to Congress on or before the first day of February of each year for four consecutive years, commencing on or before February 1, 1957, a report of the progress and accomplishments of the program provided for by this chapter. The Secretary of the Interior shall, on or before the first day of February of each year after the institution of the program for the sealing of abandoned coal mines or the filling of voids in abandoned coal mines, submit a report to Congress of the actions taken under this chapter.

(July 15, 1955, ch. 369, §5, 69 Stat. 353; Oct. 15, 1962, Pub. L. 87-818, §1(8), 76 Stat. 935.)

AMENDMENTS

1962—Pub. L. 87-818 provided for submission of reports of action taken respecting the sealing of and the filling of voids in abandoned coal mines.

**§ 576. Authorization of appropriations**

There is hereby authorized to be appropriated such amounts as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this chapter.

(July 15, 1955, ch. 369, §6, 69 Stat. 353.)

**CHAPTER 15—SURFACE RESOURCES**

**SUBCHAPTER I—DISPOSAL OF MATERIALS ON PUBLIC LANDS**

Sec.

601.

Rules and regulations governing disposal of materials; payment; removal without charge; lands excluded.